

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND PARTICIPATION

D.T.E. 04-64

July 9, 2004

Petition of Bay State Gas Company for approval of certain changes to its Gas-Resource Portfolio.

The Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") has received the petition of Bay State Gas Company ("Bay State" or "Company") for approval of certain changes to its Gas-Resource Portfolio. Specifically, the Company intends to extend three gas transportation contracts and modify one gas transportation contract with the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company; to extend one gas storage contract with Dominion Transmission, Inc.; and to terminate a gas transportation contract with National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation. The Department will review the Company's petition to insure that the changes are consistent with the Company's portfolio objectives and compare favorably to the range of alternatives reasonably available to the Company and its customers.

A copy of the Company's petition and filing is available for inspection at the Department's offices at One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts and at the offices of the Company, 300 Friberg Parkway, Westborough, Massachusetts.

The Department invites public comment on this matter. Any person who desires to file written comments or request a public hearing in this matter must submit an original and three (3) copies of such written comments, or petition for leave to intervene or to participate in the proceeding, not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) July 30, 2004, with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA. 02110 and one copy with the Company's attorney:

Patricia M. French, Esq.
Bay State Gas Company
300 Friberg Parkway
Westborough, MA 01851
(508) 836-7000

A petition to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03, including a description of the manner in which the petitioner is substantially

and specifically affected by this proceeding. Receipt by the Department -- not mailing -- constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A late filed petition may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01 (4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03 (1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

Please submit all filings to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods:

(1) by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us; or (2) on a 3.5" disk, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding [D.T.E. 04-64], (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing, and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix), in Microsoft Word, (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix) or as an Adobe PDF file (naming the document with a ".pdf" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. All comments submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's web site: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

By Order of the Department,

MARY L. COTTRELL, SECRETARY